

OptionVue Help System x +

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### Horizontal Skew

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#### Horizontal Skew

OptionVue's Variable Volatility model uses a horizontal skew model. That is to say, OptionVue models the term structure of volatility for all assets based on each asset's individual characteristics.

Instead of using a single CEV number for each asset, OptionVue uses an array of 15 different CEV numbers per asset to represent how the options of various durations tend to respond to market moves that are swift, moderate, or slow moving. This is a significant improvement to OptionVue's volatility model, bringing the program a good deal closer to modeling the real-world behavior of options in response to price changes in the underlying. All CEV numbers are computed distributed each day based on the most recent 10 years of empirical data. Using these numbers, the program will correctly predict that if the price of a stock or an index goes down, the farther out options will see a smaller IV increase than the nearby options. The entire term structure is modeled to follow historical behavior of every individual asset. For futures-based assets with a CEV above 1.0, the modeling is likewise more accurate.

#### The Volatility Cone

One of the hallmarks of the new horizontal skew model is a new graphic display we are calling the Volity Cone. While the term "volatility cone" is not new in the industry, it is not universally understood to mean the same thing to everyone. We hope to bring focus to its meaning, as this is the first time for it to be included in an options analysis program (to our knowledge). A sample is shown here:

Figure 27.1 - An example volatility cone

With IV levels along the vertical axis and option durations along the horizontal axis, this graph represents a multi-year range of term structures (the shaded area), plus the current term structure with dots connected by lines. In this example, the 30-day IV is currently near 40%, while the 60-day IV is around 37%. The 90-day IV dips back down near 30%, and the 1-year and 2-year IVs are slightly lower than the 90-day IV.

#### The Horizontal Skew Window

	30d	60d	90d	1yr	2yr
Volty	30.3%	30.1%	31.5%	31.9%	32.2%
CEV	0.889	0.906	0.919	0.939	0.948

Figure 27.2 - An example Horizontal Skew Window

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Figure 27.2 - An example Horizontal Skew Window

**Expecting a change in:**

Using the drop-down menu, you can select a custom firstnear-term date to be used in the construction of the horizontal skew curve.

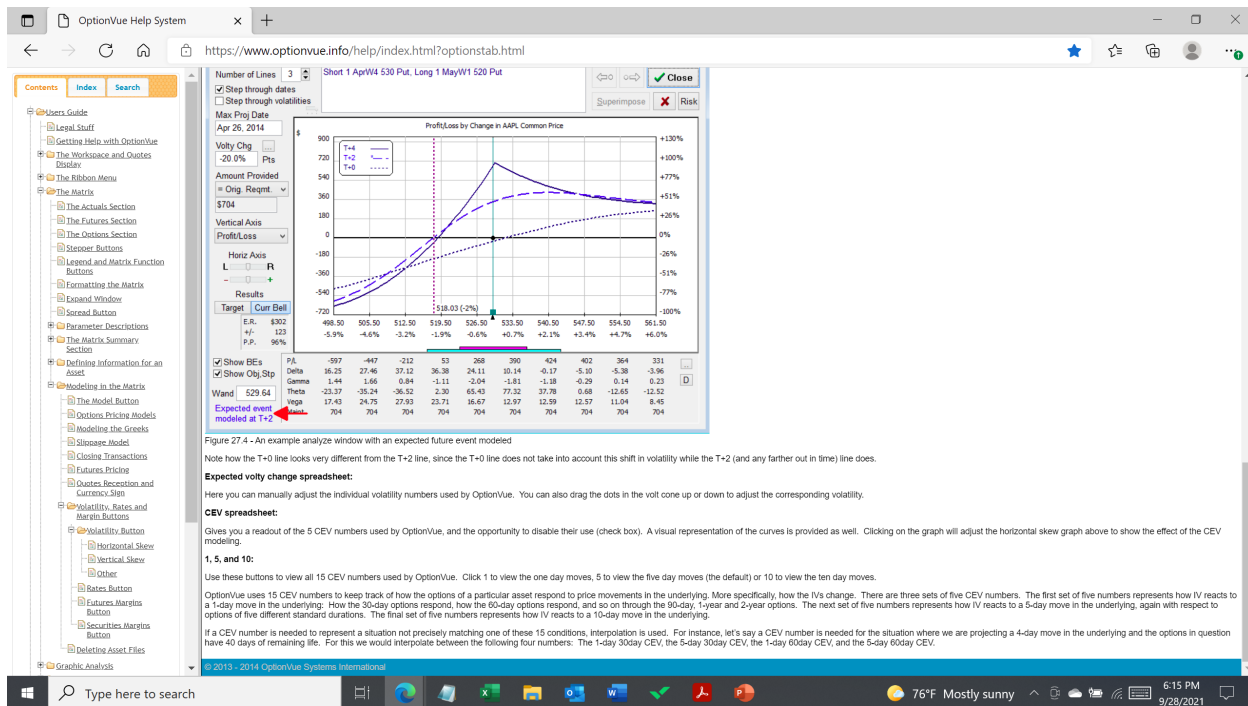
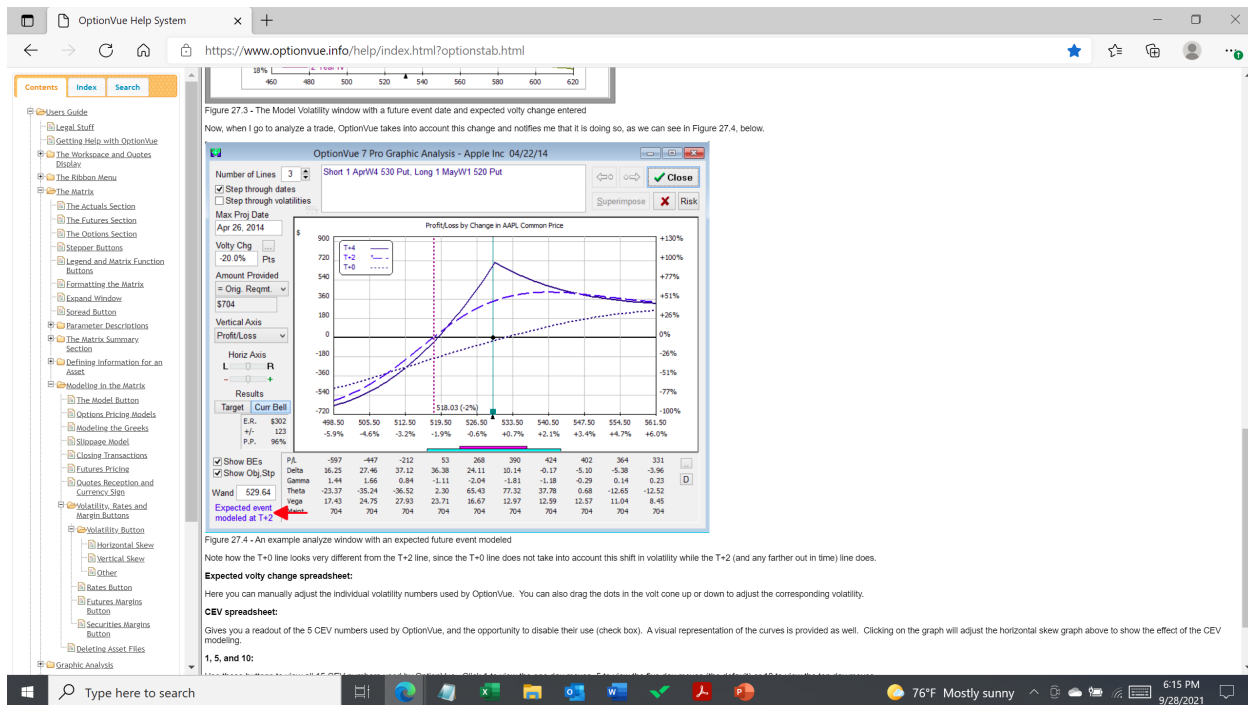
**Future event date:**

Input a date when you expect a shift in volatility, such as after earnings, a corporate action or other announcement. You can then enter an expected change in volatility in the first box in the volty change spreadsheet. OptionVue will then only apply your expected change after the date specified. For example, assume today is April 22, 2014. Apple (AAPL) has an earnings announcement on April 23, 2014 after market close. Therefore, I selected the option expiration I expect to reflect this change (the Weekly with four days of life left), entered "April 24, 2014" in my "Future Event Date", and -20 (the amount I expect the volatility to drop after the announcement) in my first spreadsheet box, as seen in Figure 27.3, below.

	W4	60d	90d	1yr	2yr
Volty	26.0%	20.8%	20.4%	23.1%	24.6%
CEV	0.899	0.914	0.925	0.941	0.949

Figure 27.3 - The Model Volatility window with a future event date and expected volty change entered

Now, when I go to analyze a trade, OptionVue takes into account this change and notifies me that it is doing so, as we can see in Figure 27.4, below.



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**Vertical Skew**

Users Guide > The Matrix > Modeling in the Matrix > Volatility, Rates and Margin Buttons > Volatility Button > Vertical Skew

**Vertical Skew**

The vertical skew is the plot measured volatility at various strike prices, a.k.a. the "volatility smile".

**The Vertical Skew Window**

	Average	W4	MAR Q	W1	W2	APR	W4	W1
Calls	13.9%	12.7%	11.8%	12.8%	12.6%	12.5%	12.5%	12.8%
Puts	13.8%	12.7%	11.7%	12.8%	12.5%	12.3%	12.4%	12.7%
Both	13.8%	12.7%	11.7%	12.7%	12.6%	12.4%	12.5%	12.8%

☒ Use combined call and put skews

Use the most recent  days worth of IV numbers (1-3)

Skew Graph Skew Parameters Skew Override

Figure 28.1 - An example Vertical Skew Window

**3-day running average ATM IV by group spreadsheet**

This mini-spreadsheet displays the individual three day running average at-the-money implied volatility for calls, puts and the combined ("both") for all expirations listed in the matrix. The "Use combined call and put skews" checkbox tells OptionVue to use the "both" figure for modeling calls and puts (checked) or to use the calls figure for the calls and the puts for the puts (unchecked).

**Skew Graph**

The volatility skew graph (see Figure 28.2, below) gives a visual representation of the volatility skew curve(s) and data points being used by OptionVue. Each cell in the mini-spreadsheet has its own skew graph.

Print JUN Call Volatility vs. Ln(K/S)/Sqrt(t) Apple Inc. OK

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Print JUN Call Volatility vs. Ln(K/S)/Sqrt(t) Apple Inc. OK

**Skew Parameters**

The skew parameters window (see Figure 28.3, below) allows you to view, and change, the characteristics of the volatility skew curves. Each cell in the mini-spreadsheet has its own set of skew parameters.

Date	ATM Volty	Slope	Curvature
Apr 24, 2014	0.216	-0.319	0.081
Apr 23, 2014	0.230	-0.059	0.133
Apr 22, 2014	0.225	-0.056	0.144

Figure 28.3 - An example volity skew parameters window

**Skew Override**

The skew override window (see Figure 28.4, below) allows you to view, and change, the volatility number for each strike. Each expiration (column) in the mini-spreadsheet has its own set of skew overrides.

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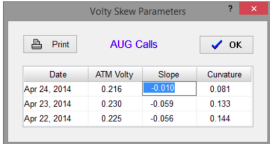
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Figure 28.2 - An example volatility skew graph

### Skew Parameters

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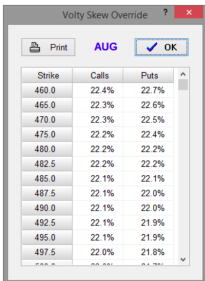


Date	ATM Volty	Slope	Curvature
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Figure 28.3 - An example volity skew parameters window

### Skew Override

The skew override window (see Figure 28.4, below) allows you to view, and change, the volatility number for each strike. Each expiration (column) in the mini-spreadsheet has its own set of skew overrides.



Strike	Calls	Puts
460.0	22.4%	22.7%
465.0	22.3%	22.6%
470.0	22.3%	22.5%
475.0	22.2%	22.4%
480.0	22.2%	22.2%
482.5	22.2%	22.2%
485.0	22.1%	22.1%
487.5	22.1%	22.0%
490.0	22.1%	22.0%
492.5	22.1%	21.9%
495.0	22.1%	21.9%
497.5	22.0%	21.8%

Figure 28.4 - An example volit skew override window

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Other

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Other

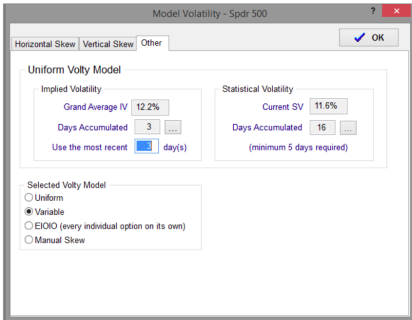


Figure 20.1 - An example Other Window

**Uniform Volty Model**

**IV**

This sub-window displays the Grand Average IV, as well as how many days of data have been accumulated. You can select how many of those days you wish (between one and however many days are accumulated).

**SV**

This sub-window displays the current SV, as well as how many days of data have been accumulated.

**Selected volty model**

This sub-window allow you to select which volatility (volty) model you would like OptionVue to use:

- Uniform - Use a single value for the IV of all options.
- Variable - The default model. Uses horizontal and vertical skewes for modeling.
- EIOIO - Every Individual Option on its Own. As the name implies, the IV for each option is calculated without regard to other options IVs or prices.
- Manual Skew (Pro version only) - Allows the user to set all aspects of the skew modeling/curves.

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